

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 755
By Hood

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mary Irby on winning the prestigious American Farm Bureau Federation Discussion Meet Competition.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly was very pleased to learn that despite rigorous competition Mary Irby, a respected resident of Murfreesboro, has won the American Farm Bureau Federation Discussion Meet Competition; and

WHEREAS, she had previously won the State Discussion Meet in December 1997; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Irby was born on April 9, 1964 in Livermore, California, the daughter of Betty Catherine Hagewood and George Allen Hood; and

WHEREAS, she was raised on a farm in West Tennessee, outside of Sharon, where her family raised hogs, chickens, and corn; she also spent a considerable amount of time on her grandparent's farm in Reeves, where they raised chickens and vegetables; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Irby graduated from Draughon's Business College, in Nashville, with a major in Computer Programming and minor in Accounting, in 1986, having compiled an enviable 4.0 grade point average; and

WHEREAS, a popular and highly regarded student, Ms. Irby earned a Bachelor's degree in University Studies from Middle Tennessee State University in 1997, with a course of study that allowed her to combine Computer Information Systems, Agriculture, and Physical Education, graduating summa cum laude; and

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WHEREAS, she is currently enrolled at Lesley College, pursuing a Master's degree which will combine Computer Information Systems and Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, a true representative of the Volunteer State, Ms. Irby has worked tirelessly assisting numerous charitable causes, teaching fitness classes and lecturing on nutrition at the Donelson Senior Citizen Center, Trevecca Towers, McKendree Village, and Lakeshore Retirement Center; and

WHEREAS, she has also generously contributed her time and leadership to the YMCA, to the "We Build People Campaign", as Chairperson of the Nashville Dance for Heart, and as a fundraiser for the American Heart Association and HIV/AIDS/Cancer research; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Irby is also an active member of the National Organization of Women and the International Dance Exercise Association; and

WHEREAS, she is a devoted member of the World Outreach Church in Murfreesboro, where she teaches sixth grade Sunday School, and before moving to Murfreesboro, she was an active member of the Saturn Drive Baptist Church in Nashville; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Mary Irby on winning the 1998 American Farm Bureau Federation Discussion Meet Competition and wish her much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.